

## **Project of the Institute of Theology of the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church „500 years since the Reformation in Estonia: From the 16th Century up to Today“**

The Project keeps in sight the main theme of the LWF *Liberated by God's Grace* and pays in activities and research topics attention to the respective sub-themes in the form *Salvation, Creation and Human Beings are not for Sale*. Duration of the project: 2015 – 2017, the last three years of the *Lutherdekade*.

The aim of the project is to promote research on various fields influenced by the Reformation, carry out didactic activities, present the results of the research process at the conference and finalise it through the special publication.

As the result, people's consciousness of the meaning of the Reformation as a permanent process will be increased, readiness to participate in the spiritual life fostered and special additional literature on the theme available in Estonian.

### **A. The main activities:**

#### **1. Seminars - continuing education (life-long learning process) for pastors, Church workers and wider audience: 2016 – 2017**

Domestic and foreign invited lecturers. Study materials: (1) *Lutheran Confessional Letters* in Estonian are already available (published in 2014 by the Institute of Theology with the aid of VELKD) and in use. (2) Other study materials will be prepared on the basis of the four LWF books *Liberated by God's Grace – Creation, Human Beings, Salvation*.

#### **2. Research group: Systematic Theology, History, Music, Art, Education, social sciences and Pedagogy: 2015-2017**

The research group will come together in May 2015 for planning topics for research, writing, conference (October 2016) and special publication (2017). Presentations of the conference will be developed and edited and subsequently printed as the Publication of the Institute of Theology of the EELC. Presentation of the Publication and special lectures on the theme will take place in 2017.

Research articles will be asked from Dr Riho Saard (Church history, history of theological ideas), Dr Tiina Kala (Medieval history and culture), Thomas Andreas Pöder (Lutheran theology), Mag Anne Burghardt (Lutheran theology in contextual relationships), Mag Mathhias Burghardt (German – Estonian theological relations), Mag Kristel Engman (Finnish – Estonian ecclesiastical and theological relations at the time of the Cold War), Dr Krista Kodres (History of art), Dr Ingmar Kurg (Ecumenical aspects), Dr Arne Hiob (Dogmatics), Mag Liina Kilemit (Sociology of religion), Dr Randar Tasmuth (Lutheran exegesis and hermeneutic), Dr Juhan Kreem (History of Lutheran culture in Estonia).

The topics will cover wide area of Theology (History, Dogmatic, Lutheran Exegesis and Hermeneutic) and wider phenomena like public education, Music, Art, Social sciences. The two principal investigators will be Dr Randar Tasmuth and Dr Riho Saard.

**3. A two-day Reformation conference in Tallinn: National Library, Big Conference Centre, October 25 – 26. 2016.**

**Conference also celebrates the 70th birthday of the Institute of Theology of the EELC.**

The conference makes publicly known what research groups have achieved. Partners and guest lecturers invited. Workshops will be organised and panel discussion with a look to the future.

**4. Publication of the Special Issue of the Institute of Theology of the EELC in 2017**

The publication will include the articles prepared by the research group and presented at the conference with additional materials dealing with the role of the Reformation (500 years) and the Institute of Theology of the EELC (70 years) in Estonia. Emphasis is laid on topics like Lutheran education, cultural influence and theological research in Estonia in the 20-th century including the years of the Cold War. The institute was established in May 1946 and has an outstanding role today and tomorrow.

**B: Expenditures:**

<b>1. Seminars 2016-2017:</b>	<b>€ 3000,00</b>
<b>2. Research group 2015 – 2017:</b> (Royalties € 5000,00, principal investigators € 4000,00, travel expenses € 1500,00, supply of literature € 2000,00, infrastructure € 1500,00)	<b>€ 14000,00</b>
<b>3. A two-day conference 2016:</b>	<b>€ 1500,00</b>
<b>4. Special publication of all materials in the series of the Institute of Theology of the EELC 2017:</b>	<b>€ 9500,00</b>
<b>Total cost of the 3-year project:</b>	<b>€ 28000,00</b>
<b>Self-financing of the institute:</b>	<b>€ 8500,00</b>
<b>Support asked from the VELKD/Deutsches Nationalkomitee:</b>	<b>€ 19500,00</b>
Distribution of the support during the period of the project: 2015:	€ 2500,00
2016:	€ 8000,00
2017:	€ 9000,00